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INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ADMINISTRATION

Washington 25, D. C.

DEC 10 1959

16 Dec 59

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Honorable Allen W. Dulles
Director
Central Intelligence Agency

SUBJECT: Ethiopian Land Resettlement Scheme

Both State and ICA have been closely following Ethiopian developments concerning the Emperor's land resettlement program. While the Emperor announced his intention to undertake the program early in October, we still have only a few specifics. It is our guess that in this case, as in many others in Ethiopia, the Emperor's pronouncement did not have the benefit of careful prior planning. It is interesting, for example, that while the Ethiopian Development Bank was named as the instrumentality to carry out the program, officials of the Bank had no knowledge prior to the October announcement that the Bank would be so involved.

To help us obtain a better understanding of the possibilities of the effective action in the land reform and resettlement area in Ethiopia, we are very pleased that we can obtain almost immediately the services of Dr. Roland R. Renne, President of Montana State College, who is available to leave for Ethiopia immediately after the first of the year. This will enable prompt response to the Mission's request for the services of an expert. The USOM and Embassy are being advised of the availability of Dr. Renne and their concurrence is being requested.

We feel that a study by a qualified expert on the ground is essential to help us avoid vague commitments which we may later be unable to fulfill. Our experience of eight years of operations in Ethiopia underscores the essentiality of carefully phasing activities to conform with the realities of Ethiopian administrative, manpower and financial absorptive capacity. We feel that Dr. Renne will be able to give us the sort of study we need. He is well qualified in his field and has had excellent experience with one of ICA's predecessor agencies as a Mission Director in the Philippines.

CONFIDENTIAL

State Department review
completed

EXECUTIVE RECORD

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Dulles:

A copy of this memorandum has already
been sent to the DD/P for information and
necessary action.


14 Dec. 59
(DATE)

FORM NO. 101 REPLACES FORM 10-101
1 AUG 54 WHICH MAY BE USED.

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